



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.
P.O. BOX 2938
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402

MAILED

OCT 21 2010

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,040,706	:	
Issue Date: May 09, 2006	:	
Application No. 10/731,876	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: December 09, 2003	:	
Attorney Docket No. 1499.006US1	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed July 26, 2010, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

If reconsideration of this decision is desired, a petition for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.378(e) must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. No extension of this two-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

Any petition for reconsideration of this decision must be accompanied by the petition fee of \$400 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(f). The petition for reconsideration must include the lacking item(s) noted below, since, after a decision on the petition for reconsideration, no further reconsideration or review of the matter will be undertaken by the Director.

A petition to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 35 U.S.C. 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be accompanied by: (1) a statement that the delay was unintentional; (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted; (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2). This petition lacks item (1) above.

The statement under 37 CFR 3.73b does not include a reel/frame or a chain of title. In order to request or take action in a patent matter, the assignee must establish its ownership of the patent to the satisfaction of the Director. In this regard, a Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) must have either: (i) documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee (*e.g.*, copy of an executed assignment), and a statement affirming that the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was or concurrently is being submitted for recordation pursuant to § 3.11; or (ii) a statement specifying where documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee is recorded in the assignment records of the Office (*e.g.*, reel and frame number).

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail: Mail Stop PETITION
 Commissioner for Patents
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand: U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petitions
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to undersigned at (571) 272-4231.



Michelle R. Eason
Paralegal Specialist
Office of Petitions